REMARKS

I.   Introduction

In response to the Office Action dated June 26, 2007, claims 1, 4, 9, 17, 20, 25, 33, 36, and 41 have been amended. Claims 1, 3-17, 19-33, and 35-48 remain in the application. Re-examination and re-consideration of the application, as amended, is requested.

II.   Claim Amendments

Applicant's attorney has made amendments to the claims as indicated above. These amendments were made solely for the purpose of clarifying the language of the claims, and were not required for patentability or to distinguish the claims over the prior art.

III.   Prior Art Rejections

In paragraph (4) of the Office Action, claims 1, 3-17, 19-33, and 35-48 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Arora, U.S. Patent No. 5,845,299 (Arora) in view of Malamud et al., U.S. Patent No. 6,948,126 (Malamud) and Kreegar et al., U.S. Patent No. 5,396,590 (Kreegar).

Applicant respectfully traverses these rejections.

Specifically, claim 1, 17 and 33 were rejected as follows:

> Regarding independent claim 1, Arora teaches a method for temporarily displaying information relating to an object manipulator; displaying a graphic object in a computer graphics program; displaying an object manipulator on the graphic object; (i.e. "Properties" window related to items 502 and 504 in FIG. 5 et seq. of Arora). Arora does not teach temporarily displaying information relating to the object manipulator without activating the object manipulator.
>
> Malamud teaches receiving cursor input wherein a cursor is placed over the object (i.e. see tooltip associated with obejcts in FIGS. 2D-2H et seq. of Malamud). It would have been obvious to an artisan at the time of the invention to combine the cursor input of Malamud in to the information display of Arora. Said artisan would have been motivated to combine Malamud into Arora so that through manipulation of the cursor, the user is able to have displayed information about the object (i.e. see col. 1 line 52 et seq. of Malamud).
>
> Kreegar teaches displaying information relating to the object manipulator without activating the object manipulator (i.e. col. 2 line 50 et seq. of Kreegar: "without having to activate different modes for different manipulations"). It would have been obvious to an artisan at the time of the invention to combine the non-activation required manipulators of Kreegar into the temporary display of Arora as modified by Malamud. Said artisan would have been motivated to combine Kreegar into the modified Arora to allow a user to manipulate the objects without having to resort to alternative methods of manipulation (i.e. col. 2 line 45 et seq. of Kreegar).
>
> Claim 17 is similar in scope to claim 1, and is therefore rejected under similar rationale.

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Claim 33 is similar in scope to claim 1, and is therefore rejected under similar rationale.

Applicant traverses the above rejections for one or more of the following reasons:

(1)   Arora, Malamud, and Kreegar do not teach, disclose or suggest temporarily displaying information relating to an an object manipulator that is used to modify a property of a graphic object; and

(2)   Arora, Malamud, and Kreegar do not teach, disclose or suggest temporarily displaying information relating to an an object manipulator that is used to modify a property of a graphic object without activating the object manipulator.

The independent claims are directed to temporarily displaying information relating to an object manipulator. The claims provide for displaying a graphic object and an object manipulator on the object. Even though the definition of an object manipulator is well understood in the field of the invention, Applicants have amended the claims to further clarify such an object manipulator. In this regard, the claims now provide that the object manipulator is a glyph or symbol that is used to modify a property of the graphic object. A cursor is placed over the object manipulator and information is temporarily displayed in response. Further, the information is displayed without activating the object manipulator at all.

When rejecting claim 1, the Office Action relies on Arora to teach the display of an object manipulator on the graphic object. Namely, the Action relies on the "Properties" window related to items 502 and 504 of FIG. 5. Applicants respectfully disagree with and traverse such an assertion. Firstly, the properties window is not even remotely similar to an object manipulator (either before or after the present amendments). Secondly, the properties window is not displayed on a graphic object itself (as claimed). Instead, the properties window is displayed to the side of windows 502 and 504. Again, not only does Arora fail to teach, disclose, or suggest an object manipulator, but Arora also fails to even remotely allude to displaying such an object manipulator on a graphic object itself.

The Action continues and relies on Malamud's tooltip in FIGS. 2D-2H to teach the receipt of cursor input when placed over an object. Applicants note that Malamud's tooltips are also not object manipulators (either before or after the present amendments). Instead, Malamud's tooltips are merely information that is displayed about an object in an information window (see col. 1, lines

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52 et seq.). Further, Malamud's tooltips are not displayed when the user places a cursor over an object manipulator. As can be clearly seen in FIGs. 2D-2H, the cursor is merely placed over an object (e.g., a folder or some object) and not over an object manipulator that is displayed on an object (as claimed). Accordingly, Malamud also fails to teach, disclose, or suggest, explicitly or implicitly the present invention.

Lastly, the Office Action relies on Kreegar to teach displaying information relating to the object manipulator without activating the object manipulator (col. 2, line 50 et seq). Applicants note that Kreegar merely describes the ability to use different shape control tools (see col. 2, lines 41-68). Further, close examination of the Kreegar's recited text reveals that rather than forcing the user to enter a different mode to perform a different manipulation (e.g., using different menu bar selections), Kreegar provides the ability to merely selecting a different shape control tool. However, nowhere in Kreegar is there even a remote reference to displaying information regarding any of such shape control tools or regarding what such shape control tools will do. In addition, contrary to that asserted in the Office Action, Kreegar actually requires the user to click on the tool in order to display or use the particular shape control tool (see col. 2, lines 60-68). Kreegar's text explicitly recites that the tool must be activated and manipulated. In this regard, Kreegar would actually serve to teach away from the present invention.

Building upon the independent claims, the dependent claims provide for displaying certain types of information - all without activating the object manipulator.

Applicants note that the concept of placing an object manipulator on a graphic object and providing information of the object manipulator itself without activating the manipulator is neither taught nor suggested by the prior art. More specifically, the invention provides the ability to receive feedback regarding the object manipulator without having to actually activate the manipulator and test the various scenarios or uses of the manipulator. In addition, as addressed below, the dependent claims provide various specific implementations that are neither taught nor suggested by the prior art.

The cited references do not teach nor suggest these various elements of Applicant's independent claims.

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A. Dependent Claims 3, 19, and 35

Dependent claims 3, 19, and 35 provide that the information is a change of color of the object manipulator. As amended, claims 3, 19, and 35 provide that there are multiple object manipulators that are displayed in close proximity on the graphic object. In this regard, the claims explicitly provide that it is difficult to distinguish which object manipulator will be activated as a result of pointing device activation. Further, the display of the changed color distinguishes one object manipulator from another object manipulator displayed in close proximity.

In rejecting these dependent claims, the Office action relied on a color button of FIG. 3 of Arora. Applicants note that the claims do not provide for a color button whatsoever. Instead, as claimed, the color of the object manipulator is changed. Thus, the existence of the ability to select a color or to click a color button has no relevance whatsoever to the present claims.

Further, the other cited references fail to cure the deficiencies of Arora.

B. Dependent Claims 4, 20, and 36

Dependent claims 4, 20, and 36 provide that the information displayed is a value of a property that is to be modified by the object manipulator. As amended, the claims provide that, when the cursor is moved over an object manipulator (and without activating the manipulator [e.g., clicking the mouse button]), a property that will be modified by activating the object manipulator is displayed. In rejecting these claims, the Office Action relies on the properties window related to items 502 and 504 of FIG. 5 of Arora.

Applicants respectfully traverse such an assertion. Again, Arora's properties window is not information that is displayed when a cursor is placed over an object manipulator. In this regard, Arora does not teach or disclose an object manipulator. Further, the information in Arora's properties window has no relevance with respect to an object manipulator. Instead, the properties window only refers to properties of a current page displayed (see col. 6, lines 42-46). Such a properties window is not temporarily displayed as claimed nor does such a window disclose the value of a property that will be modified if an object manipulator is activated. Again, such a properties window is neither relevant to, nor does it remotely describe, the claimed object manipulator, information, or value that will be modified by activation of an object manipulator as claimed.

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Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the rejections.

C. Dependent Claims 5, 21, and 37

These dependent claims build upon claims 4, 20, and 36 and further provide that the property for which the value is displayed is a dimensional property. Thus, the displayed value is for a dimensional property (i.e., the value comprises a dimension).

In rejecting these claims, the Office Action further relies on the width and height in pixels in FIG. 3 of Arora. However, the width and height in the properties window are for a grid of the displayed window. Such a grid is not an object manipulator, does not represent an object manipulator, nor does it relate to a property of an object manipulator (as claimed). In this regard, such grid properties have no relevance to the presently claimed invention.

In view of the above, Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the rejections.

D. Dependent Claims 6, 22, and 38

As amended, dependent claims 6, 22, and 38 provide that the information is a graphic visual representation of the graphic object that indicates a potential change to a state of the object (i.e., on which the object manipulator is displayed). In other words, the displayed graphic is a visual representation of the graphics object wherein the visual representation indicates a change to the state of the graphic object. An example of such a changed state is illustrated in FIGS. 11A-11B of the filed application.

In rejecting these claims, the Office Action again relies on Arora's properties window. However, nowhere in the properties window is there any visual representation of a graphic object. Further, nowhere in the properties window is there any indication of a potential change to a state of a graphic object. In this regard, the Office Action is completely disregarding and ignoring the explicit limitations set forth in the claims. Under MPEP §2142 and 2143.03 "To establish *prima facie* obviousness of a claimed invention, all the claim limitations must be taught or suggested by the prior art. *In re Royka*, 490 F.2d 981, 180 USPQ 580 (CCPA 1974). "All words in a claim must be considered in judging the patentability of that claim against the prior art." *In re Wilson*, 424 F.2d 1382, 1385, 165 USPQ 494, 496 (CCPA 1970)." The Action fails to consider each of the claim

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limitations and summarily rejects the claims referring to a drawing of an issued patent that is not
even remotely relevant to the presently claimed invention.

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the rejections.

E. Dependent Claims 7, 23, and 39

These dependent claims are dependent on 6, 22, and 38 and further provide that the
potential change is a potential result of interacting with the object manipulator. Thus, as claimed,
the potential result would be a visual representation of the graphic object that indicates the result of
interacting with the object manipulator.

Such an indication of the result is not taught, nor suggested by the cited references. As set
forth in the patent application, the display of the representation communicates to the user the
potential results of interacting with the manipulator without requiring the user to a) interact with the
manipulator, b) experiment with what can be done with the manipulator, and c) potentially undo
unintended results. Accordingly, the user is able to visualize results before making an actual
modification.

In rejecting these claims, the Office Action relies on sample text in item 504 of Arora. Such
sample text is not what would result from interacting with an object manipulator as claimed.
Instead, the sample text is text that the user would have to manually type into the text box. The
sample text is not a potential result from interacting with an object manipulator. In this regard,
manually typing in text is not even remotely similar to temporarily displaying a potential value that
would result if a user were to activate an object manipulator. Arora completely and utterly fails to
teach any aspect of the claimed invention, explicitly or implicitly.

In view of the above, Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the rejection.

F. Dependent Claims 8, 24, and 40

Dependent claims 8, 24, and 40 provide that the information that is temporarily displayed is
a function of the object manipulator.

In rejecting these claims, the Office Action relies on item 301 of Fig. 4A of Kreegar. Item
301 of Fig. 4A is a scaling shape control tool (see Kreegar col. 5, lines 65-66). But again, no
function is being displayed in Kreegar. Further, no function is temporarily displayed in Kreegar.

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Further yet, Kreegar completely fails to describe the display of any information relating to the shape control tools 301. Without teaching the ability to display such information, Kreegar cannot possibly teach, disclose, or suggest, the claim limitations which explicitly require such a display.

In view of the above, Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the rejections.

G. Dependent Claims 9, 25, and 41

Dependent claims 9, 25, and 41 are dependent on 8, 24, and 40 and further provide that the function that is displayed is a name of the property the object manipulator is used to modify. FIGS. 12A-12B illustrate the display of the name of the property as claimed. For example, the terms "width and height" may be displayed when the cursor is displayed over a particular object manipulator.

In rejecting these claims, the Office Action relies on the Name Information Pointer 26 in FIG. 2A of Malamud. Col. 6, lines 1-6 describe the name information pointer 26:

> Name information pointer 26 includes a pointing portion 28 (i.e., a conventional pointing cursor) and an information box 30. The information box 30 displays the name of the object to which the pointing portion 28 points.

However, what is notoriously missing from such a description is that the name pointer is for a name of the object and not for the name of a property that an object manipulator is used to modify (as claimed). In this regard, a name of an object is not similar to, nor does it allude to, the name of a property of the object. Nor does the name of an object allude to the name of a property that an object manipulator will modify (as claimed).

In view of the above, Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the rejections.

H. Dependent Claims 11, 27, and 43

Dependent claims 11, 27, and 43 provide that the information that is temporarily displayed is a method that is used to modify a function of the object manipulator. In other words, the object manipulator has a function and the information that is displayed describes a method that can be used to modify that function.

In rejecting these claims, the Office Action relied on item 301 in Fig. 4A of Kreegar. However as described above, item 301 of FIG. 4A is merely a scale control tool and does not refer

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to a method or a method used to modify a function of an object manipulator. In fact, Kreegar does not even remotely allude to such a claim limitation.

In view of the above, Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the rejections.

I. Dependent Claims 13, 29, and 45

Dependent claims 13, 29, and 45 provide that the information is displayed after a period of time has passed with the cursor located over the object manipulator. In other words, the information that is temporarily displayed is not displayed until the cursor remains over the area for a period of time.

In rejecting these claims, the Office Action relies on Kreegar's object manipulators of FIG., 3 with information displayed when a cursor is over an object in FIG. 2D of Malamud. However, neither reference discloses the ability to display information about an object manipulator. Further, even if combined, the present invention would not result. In this regard, if combined, a scale control tool would be displayed along with information about objects in a drawing (from Malamud). However, information about the scale control tools is not disclosed nor alluded to in either Malamud or Kreegard or the combination of references.

In view of the above, Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the rejections.

Moreover, the various elements of Applicant's claimed invention together provide operational advantages over Arora, Malamud, and Kreegar. In addition, Applicant's invention solves problems not recognized by Arora, Malamud, and Kreegar.

Thus, Applicant submits that independent claims 1, 17, and 33 are allowable over Arora, Malamud, and Kreegar. Further, dependent claims 3-16, 19-32, 35-48 are submitted to be allowable over Arora, Malamud, and Kreegar in the same manner, because they are dependent on independent claims 1, 17, and 33, respectively, and thus contain all the limitations of the independent claims. In addition, dependent claims 3-16, 19-32, 35-48 recite additional novel elements not shown by Arora, Malamud, and Kreegar.
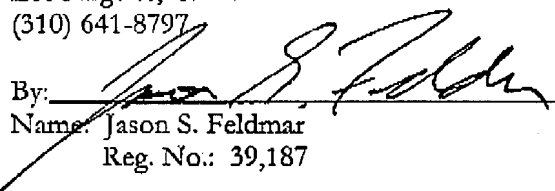
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IV.   Conclusion

In view of the above, it is submitted that this application is now in good order for allowance and such allowance is respectfully solicited. Should the Examiner believe minor matters still remain that can be resolved in a telephone interview, the Examiner is urged to call Applicant's undersigned attorney.

Respectfully submitted,

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